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NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

Annapolis Valley Regional Library (AVRL)

Automated Library System

All branch locations of the Annapolis Valley Regional Library have wireless access to the Internet. This is popular with residents and tourists, providing them with access to a high speed Internet connection on their own equipment. This service is available even when the branch is closed, extending the hours of use. AVRL is participating in a pilot project with the Provincial Library and a couple of other regional libraries to test the process of authenticating these users with the AVRL library database. This would be done when they signed on to the service and would allow AVRL to keep statistics on the number of people using this service.

Community Access Program (CAP)

There has been a lot of publicity around the Community Access Program (CAP), this fall. The program was slated by Industry Canada to "sunset" at the end of September. Through public lobbying the program has been extended to the end of March, 2007 with some additional transition funding. This funding should allow the doors of the stand alone community sites to stay open until the end of March when it is hoped a long term funding solution will be found. Public access will continue at public libraries throughout the province even without CAP, but it is the level of service available that is in jeopardy. Without CAP funding, equipment is not refreshed as often as needed and additional instruction or assistance is not available to users. AVRL is waiting for the final word on a proposed youth program. This is a very valuable program that will provide part-time youth at requested sites for approximately eight weeks before the end of February. As President of the Nova Scotia Library Association, Charlotte Janes was invited with Eric

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Stackhouse, Chair of the Nova Scotia CAP Association to meet with the Legislative Committee's Standing Committee on Economic Development to discuss CAP. They made a presentation, then moved into a question and answer session, on November 14, 2006. The provincial Office of Economic Development is a long standing partner for CAP in Nova Scotia. All of this work is part of ongoing efforts to secure a bright future for CAP. The Hansard record is now online at: http://www.gov.ns.ca/legislature/hansard/comm/ed/ed_2006nov14.htm

CBC - Words at Large

AVRL was contacted by CBC and asked to participate in their Words at Large feature of the 10 ten requested fiction titles at a public library. A different city from across Canada was featured each week for September and October 2006. AVRL was featured the week of October 10th.

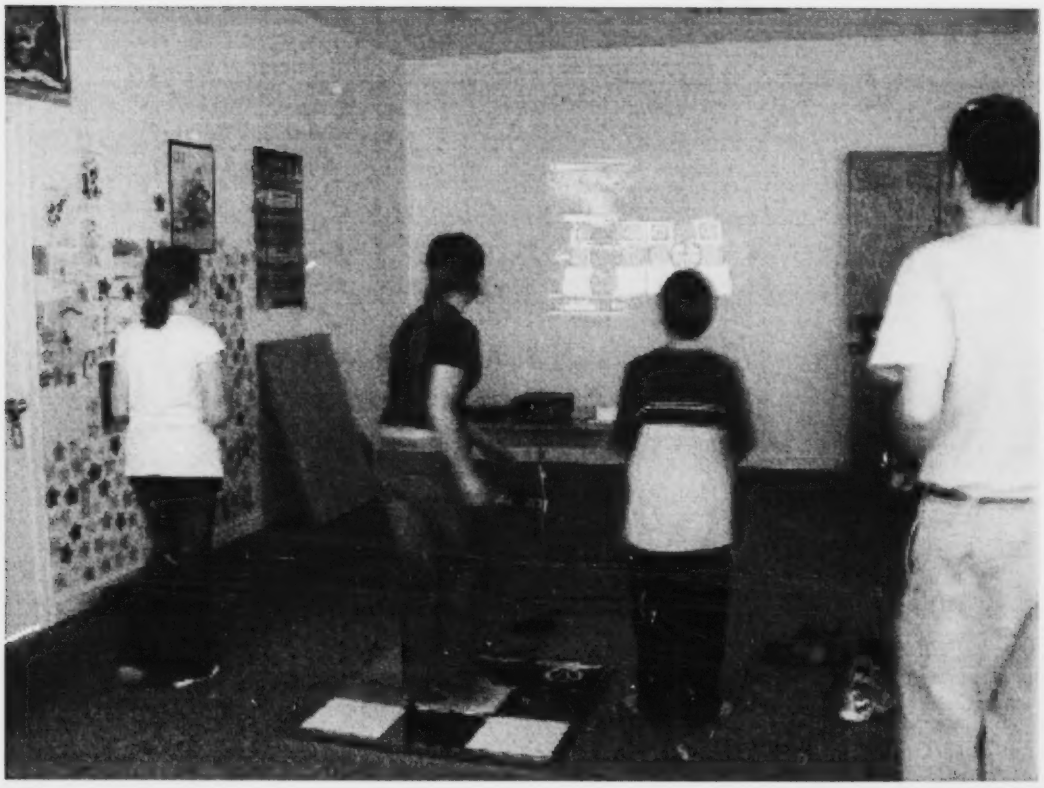
Branch Services

In October, AVRL offered a lecture entitled "Canada in Afghanistan: What's Our Role?" by journalist, war correspondent and author Scott Taylor at the Wolfville Memorial Library. As a first-hand witness to many of the world's recent clashes, Scott Taylor brought to the audience a rare insight of the understanding of these complicated war zones. Energy consultant Art Irwin travelled to the Wolfville Memorial Library for a presentation on "Getting Your Home Ready for Winter". Most of the audience was familiar with Mr. Irwin's broad knowledge on the topic via the CBC Maritime Noon call-in show on which he is a frequent guest. Participants brought their questions and some took lots of notes! Teen Read Week was held in late October and a variety of awesome events were available for this age group. Belly dance Workshops were held in Windsor and Wolfville; a mehndi tattoo program in Bridgetown; a Dance Dance Revolution event in Middleton; a Hip Hop dance workshop in Kentville; a Midnight Madness evening in Wolfville; and an Anime Night in Berwick. In Annapolis County, AVRL has partnered with the Family Resource Centre Family Matters to offer a pre-school program at Annapolis Royal and Bridgetown libraries, with a commitment to all four Annapolis County branches in spring 2007.

All libraries are suffering from the loss of funding of the federal C@P program. The disappearance of the free one-on-one computer tutorials formerly available to patrons has placed a burden on staff to offer more assistance to people for whom computers and the associated technology is a new challenge.

AVRL is now actively promoting and welcoming the sponsorship of any library programs by community groups, organizations or individuals.

Teen Read Week, at the Wolfville Library -- A Martial Arts demo was held for the boys upstairs (shown), while downstairs the girls were doing belly dance!



The Dance Dance Revolution event in Middleton attracted a lot of teens!

A mehndi tattoo program in Bridgetown pleased a lot of teenaged girls.

One of the mehndi program participants shows off her new mehndi tattoo!

Cape Breton Regional Library (CBRL)

This fall for the ninth year, CBRL participated the Celtic Colours International Festival by hosting the Celtic Conversation Series. This library hosted event was held during the lunch hours of October 10 to October 13. The lineup of talent included Karine Polwart an award winning singer/ songwriter from Scotland; Newfoundland musicians and storytellers Jim Payne and Fergus O'Byrne; Irish fiddler, Liz Carroll and guitar player John Doyle and from the island of Lewis, Gaelic singer Ishbel MacAskill. The Celtic Colours Conversation Series is always a pleasure to see and host!

Two other successful events for the CBRL this fall were Read to Me! Jamborees and Library Card Month celebrations. CBRL held Read to Me Jamborees in our North Sydney and Sydney branches and all who attended were pleased to participate in a morning of stories, songs, rhymes and play-time. The wonderful books donated by the Read to Me! organizers for prizes were gratefully received.

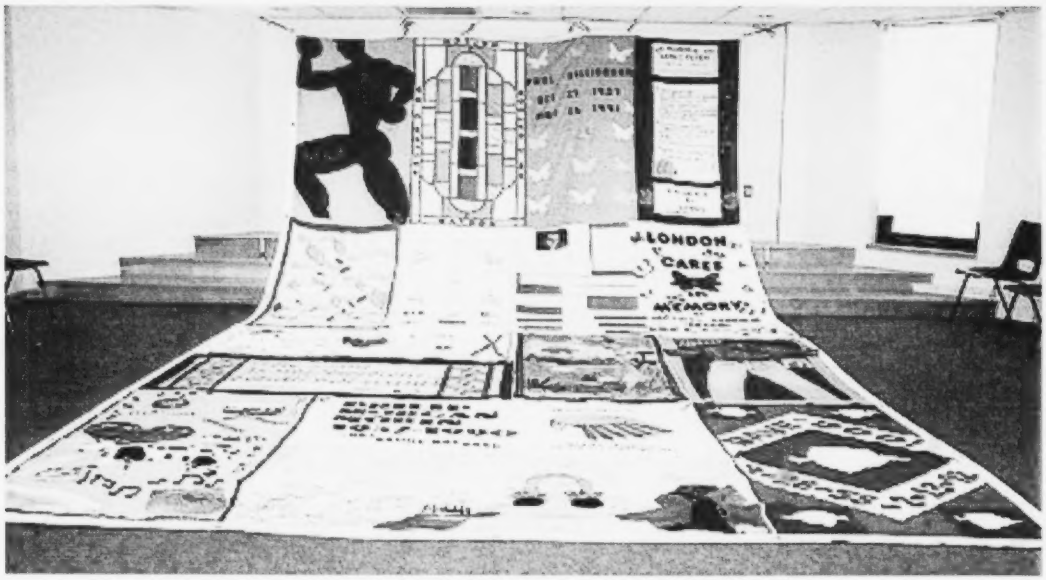
Sydney, North Sydney and Glace Bay branches hosted special events to help celebrate the library and Library Card month. The CBRL had help from magician Genny Locke; storyteller Harolyn Gurley and Therapeutic Paws dogs with their handlers in making these celebrations festive afternoons.

As part of the CBRL's Fall Adult Program Series, the library was thrilled to host an evening of author readings with award winning writers Lynn Coady and Frank MacDonald. This event was generously sponsored by Cape Breton University.

During the last week of November, a piece of the Canadian AIDS Memorial Quilt was on display in the McConnell Library. The whole quilt would cover 18,000 square feet - the piece that the library showcased was 16 panels in size, each panel created in memory of someone who has died of AIDS.

Karrine Polwart, a Scottish singer/ songwriter, recites a few Robert Burns poems during one of the Celtic Colours Conversations.

Writers Lynn Coady and Frank MacDonald at the McConnell Library for an evening of author readings (sponsored by CBU and hosted by the CBRL.)



A piece of the Canadian AIDS Memorial Quilt on display at the McConnell Library.

Colchester-East Hants Public Library (CEHPL)

Canadian Library Month

Any excuse for a party! To celebrate Canadian Library Month, cake and juice were featured at our Upper Stewiacke satellite site and at each branch during the week of October 23. In Mount Uniacke, a young boy, who frequently spends time in the library, returned later in the day with a chocolate bar for the staff as his way of saying thanks for the cake. Below, Lesley Brann (administrator of adult and outreach services) and Warden John Patterson of the Municipality of East Hants cut the cake for visitors in the Mount Uniacke branch.

Branch assistant Jacqueline Ottenheimer (middle) and library director Janet Pelley (right) serve cake and juice to delighted patrons at the Stewiacke branch.

Christmas in Truro

The Santa Claus Parade travelled past the Truro Branch on Sunday, November 26. Hot sweet cider and cookies were served during the CEHPL annual open house, with twice as many people as last year. Some visitors had never been in the library and lingered to take a look around.

Truro staff members practice their smiles just before the library's annual open house on Santa Claus Parade day.

"Hazards of Success"

Angela Head-on, who coordinates Truro's programs for older adults, recently reported on the growing success of the once-a-month *Lunch and a Movie* event (participants bring their lunch and the library provides beverages and a movie):

One of CEHPL's patrons has been coming to the Prime Time movies from the start. During the first year he often wondered why more people weren't coming. He felt it was such a terrific service! Last month, CEHPL had its largest attendance ever – 30 people! CEHPL was scrambling to find tables and seats for everyone. This particular regular patron came in at the last minute, so he didn't get his usual seat. He was quite amazed with the turnout and helped with extra seating, but he commented 'You'd better stop advertising, Angela'.

Cumberland Regional Library

Canadian Children's Book Week was a busy time at Cumberland County libraries. Popular children's author Sharon Jennings visited students in schools throughout the County from November 20-23. The tour included stops in Amherst, Parrsboro, Oxford, Northport, Pugwash, and Wallace before she proceeded on to Halifax. Jennings tour was coordinated by the Cumberland Regional Library in cooperation with local schools and the Canadian Children's Book Centre with funding from the Canada Council for the Arts. Sharon Jennings is the author of several picture books for children, over four dozen books in the Franklin series and has now branched into chapter books. Sharon teaches creative writing at Ryerson University and is the author of *When Jeremiah Found Mrs Ming*, *The Bye-Bye Pie*, *Priscilla and Rosy, and Bearcub and Mama* to name a few. In addition to the readings, Jennings presented a creative writing workshop for adults on "Tips and Tricks for Writing Stories for Children" at the Pugwash Village Hall.

Ms. Jennings is pictured here reading to children in Oxford.

The Reading Challenge between elementary school children in Cumberland County versus kids in Pictou County and County Clare Ireland is now underway. An initiative of the RCMP Adopt-A-Library program, the Reading Challenge is designed to be a friendly competition to encourage kids to read. Response from

the local schools and the kids has been tremendous. Kids participating in the Reading Challenge have been given log books and brand new key chain style library cards, and the children have been asked to keep track of all the books they read including public library books, books from the school library, books from their classroom, and their own personal books from November 14, 2006 – June 1, 2007. The school that reads the most books per capita will win $3,000 worth of books from Scholastic. The second runners up in each County will win $1,000 worth of books for their school.

Eastern Counties Regional Library (ECRL)

The Read to Me! Jamboree was launched at the Port Hawkesbury Library in October with stories, finger plays, refreshments, gifts, and special guests including representatives from Read to Me!, Cape Breton Family Place Resource Centre, and Clifford the Big Red Dog. The Jamboree continued with a story time in Canso which attracted children and their parents and caregivers to the event.

Clifford the Big Red Dog was well travelled when he visited ECRL on loan from the dog pound in P-ARL. He performed his duties in the Mulgrave Branch at the launch of the Share a Book - Build a Community fundraiser held in October. The fundraiser, sponsored and supported by EnCana Corporation and 101.5 The Hawk, has raised approximately $8,500 to date this year, with the campaign scheduled to continue until the end of December. The ECRL annual fundraiser was highlighted in EnCana's Deep Panuke Project Newsletter under the heading, "Our Most Precious Resources Are Our Communities: EnCana's Community Investment in Nova Scotia". Since the initial campaign began in 2002, EnCana has contributed more than $25,000. Clifford was also on hand to pass out book prizes to the children who attended the Read to me! Jamboree launch at the Port Hawkesbury Library.

Mulgrave Library Assistant Joyce Oliver-Snair introduces Clifford to some of the children that attended the special Share a Book story time.

he Mulgrave library recently participated in the Paws to Read program designed to help children with reading. The Therapeutic Paws of Canada provides Child Certified Therapy Dogs and handlers to schools and libraries to help students with their reading skills.

Hallie Bussey (2 ½ years old) is reading to her new friend, Piper, at the Mulgrave Library. Looking on are Mulgrave Library head Joyce Oliver-Snair, and Piper's companion, Anne Leslie.

Several members of ECRL headquarters staff participated in Breast Cancer "Dress Down Day" in October by wearing pink and sporting breast cancer badges. Proceeds raised that day were donated to the Breast Cancer campaign.

Back row: Rhonda Strachan, Laura Warner, Mildred Carrigan, Trish McCormick, Cheryl Chiavari, Lesley Carruthers. Front row: Petra Mauerhoff, Kathy Fitzpatrick.

Halifax Public Libraries (HPL)

Halifax Public Libraries Introduces Imagination Stations

Preschool children in Halifax will soon have more than books to keep them busy at their local library. All 14 branches of Halifax Public Libraries are introducing Imagination Stations specially designed to help preschoolers learn though play by engaging them in games that develop their thinking, reasoning, literacy

and motor skills. The Stations, which feature bead and lacing toys, colourful magnetic toys, puzzles, blocks, pegboards and more, are custom-built to suit the branch and community where they are located. The first three Imagination Stations are currently open at the Halifax North, Keshen Goodman and Tantallon branches. The rest will be built and installed over the coming months.

"We want to encourage families to spend time together in the library," says Tracey Jones, Literacy, ESL and Diversity Services Manager. "Play is an important part of the learning process especially for toddlers. These Stations really complement traditional notions of literacy." The Imagination Stations are part of a larger family literacy initiative made possible thanks to a generous donation of $150,000 from Athena Colpitts, a former teacher who was passionate about literacy and wanted to continue helping children learn long after she passed away. As well as funding the Imagination Stations, Mrs. Colpitt's donation has allowed the Library to enhance services to children and families by purchasing new books, introducing new family programs and expanding staff training.

Logo for the Imagination Stations specially designed to help preschoolers learn.

Halifax North's Imagination Station has a brightly-coloured rug that is a hit with preschoolers.

Children gather around the new puppet show theatre during the Imagination Station launch event at the Halifax North branch.

Bedford Branch Builds DVD Collections with Health Board Grant

Whether people are looking for information on breastfeeding, toilet training, pilates or weight loss, they'll find it all at Halifax Public Libraries thanks to two new DVD collections funded by the Cobequid Community Health Board. A $3,000 community development grant allowed the Bedford Public Library to create a *Healthy Child Development Collection* featuring 45 DVDs and a *Fitness Collection* made up of 60 DVDs. "People sometimes feel rushed though the health-care system, and feel they're not receiving all the information they need from their doctor," said Sharon Haley-Mancini, Manager of the Bedford Library. "We're noticing that many people are turning to the library for consumer health information, so it's important that we provide them with quality, up-to-date materials." The DVDs cover a wide range of topics such as fertility, pregnancy, child safety, nutrition, yoga, strength training, cardio workouts, dance fitness and Tai Chi. They are intended to complement the Library's existing collection of quality print materials.

Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library (PARL)

PARL Launches Reading Challenge

With the successful children's reading initiative, the Adopt A Library Literacy Program, continually reaching for new heights, program founder, Constable John Kennedy was seconded to the offices of the Pictou – Antigonish Regional Library this past September. During his two year tenure, which is the first of its kind in Canada, Kennedy will be on hand to offer direct support and promotion to the development of the Adopt A Library Literacy Program. Armed with the program's slogan, Fighting Crime One Book at a Time, PARL's first significant project under this partnership with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police will be Wow! A Reading Challenge.

Under the rules of the contest, libraries in PARL, Cumberland Regional Library, and Clare County, Ireland have joined with policing agencies and schools in each library region to hold a reading challenge. Registered children read books from home, school or their local public library and record them in a log book provided by the libraries. At the end of the contest on June 1, 2007, the school with the most books read will receive a grand prize of $3000.00 dollars in books for their library. Parents can assist in the success of the program by explaining to their children the importance of practicing good reading habits such as reading aloud, talking about what they are reading, and taking them to their free, public library. Most educators will agree, developing good reading habits at an early age helps children develop self-esteem and enables them to make good choices over their life time. As part of the campaign, Constable Kennedy and other representatives of the program will be dropping into schools unannounced looking for students' reading. Anyone "Caught Reading" will receive a prize. For more information on the contest visit the official program website online at **www.fightingcrime.ca** or call PARL headquarters at 755-6031 and ask for program coordinator, Const. John Kennedy.

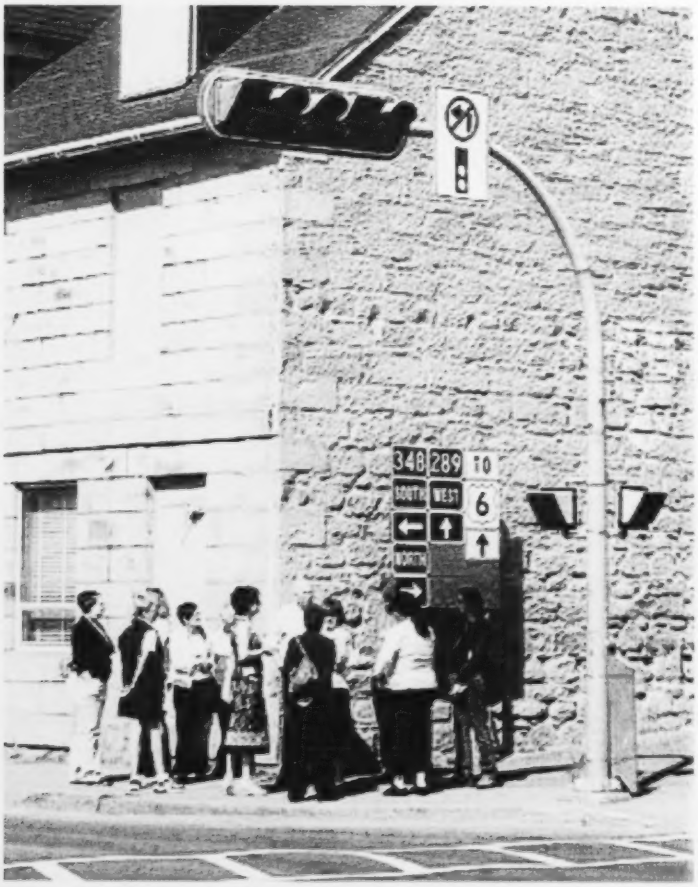
Toll Free Service

The offices of the Pictou - Antigonish Regional Library now have a toll free phone number for patrons calling for reference questions or making inquires to our Books By Mail service. Patrons can dial 1-866-779-7761 to reach PARL during our office hours, Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For calls outside this period, they can leave a message on PARL's answering machine and the appropriate staff member will return their call.

PARL Hosts Place Making Seminar

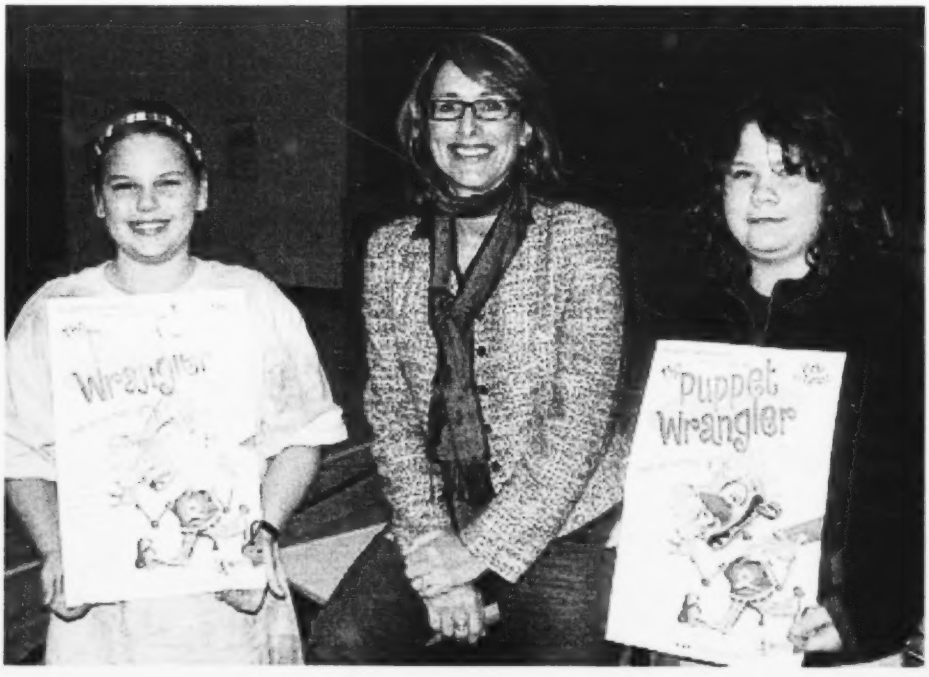
In September, PARL hosted a Placemaking Training Seminar in partnership with the Town of New

Glasgow. The series of workshops was presented by the creators of the Project for Public Spaces (www.pps.org) philosophy and explores the process of using a community based approach to the development and revitalization of towns, cities and neighborhoods. Designed for professionals as well as non-professionals, the sessions drew a wide range of participants from all levels of government and the private sector. Due to high interest in the seminar, the registered component quickly reached its capacity of 50 participants. To reach a wider audience and share the ideas presented by the three member team of presenters, a condensed version was held off site at Glasgow Square Theater. Over 150 interested citizens attended this free event to learn how they can assist in the development of their public places.



Participants in the Public Space Seminar gather on a downtown New Glasgow street corner with Chief Librarian, Eric Stackhouse. As part of the Public Space Seminar activities, participants were divided into groups and walked around the business district, answering basic questions concerning the layout and condition of the town's infrastructure. Later, back at the library, the groups come together to discuss and record their impressions with each other under the guidance of the organizers.

Recipient of the 2006 Norman Horrocks Award for Library Leadership, Eric Stackhouse, Chief Librarian of the Pictou - Antigonish Regional Library, stands with the award's namesake and inspiration, Norman Horrocks. The award is presented annually at the Nova Scotia Library Association conference banquet to individuals who have displayed leadership in the Nova Scotia Library community and contributed to the promotion and development of library service in Nova Scotia.



Halifax based, children's writer, Vicky Grant, poses with two of her fans at the Westville Junior High School after a reading. Grant took part in a three region mini-tour with PARL, ECR, and CRL. During the two day event for Canadian Library Month, she raced across the province, delivering four readings in two days for over two-hundred children. The Gemini recipient has been garnering international acclaim since starting her new career as a YA novelist a few short years ago. In 2005 she won the Arthur Ellis award for Best Juvenile Crime fiction and in 2006 she was short-listed for an Edgar Allan Poe Award for Best Young Adult writer.

In October, the Minister of Education, Karen Casey and MLA for Pictou Centre, Pat Dunn stopped by the PARL offices for a short visit to learn about library services and the Adopt A Library Literacy Program.

South Shore Regional Library (SSRL)

Read To Me

112 babies and parents/caregivers wiggled and giggled at Read To Me Jamborees in Lunenburg, Bridgewater and Liverpool Libraries in October. Programmer Heather Stevens led the party with songs and stories that entertained the wee ones. Each family received a book to take home, courtesy of Read To Me!, and a good time was had by all. The take home books provided by Read To Me! to Jamboree participants were a huge success. Yong book lovers took their time to select just the right book (see below).

This young reader enjoys her selection.

Adopt-A-Library

Constable John Kennedy visited the South Shore in early November to introduce the Adopt-A-Library Literacy Program to representatives from the Lunenburg, Bridgewater and Queens RCMP Detachments, retired RCMP Veterans Association and Bridgewater Police. The response was positive and will make an impact on both school and public libraries in Lunenburg and Queens Counties. A follow-up meeting is scheduled for December.

Constable John Kennedy poses with Bookmobile/ Technical Services Librarian Cathy MacDonald at a coffee party at the Bridgewater Library on November 6th. Constable Kennedy was in Bridgewater to introduce the Adopt-A-Library program to the local business and police community.

Friends of the Library and Members of the Seniors Library Café enjoyed Constable Kennedy's presentation.

Adopt-A-Book

Adopt-A-Book donors are 'spreading the word" on the South Shore. Businesses, government leaders, municipalities, boys, girls, women and men of all ages are donating generously to the campaign, bringing the total to date to $9,700. This equals 360 new books on Library shelves. The sponsor, Lighthouse Publishing, has assisted the campaign in a big way by printing colour bookmarks to promote the program and providing free ad space in the Bridgewater Bulletin and Progress Enterprise throughout November and December. The Adopt-A-Book Campaign "Spreading the Words" continues until December 31. Donations can be made at any SSRL branch or online at **www.ssrlibrary.ca** (Click on Adopt-A-Book 2006).

Western Counties Regional Library (WCRL)

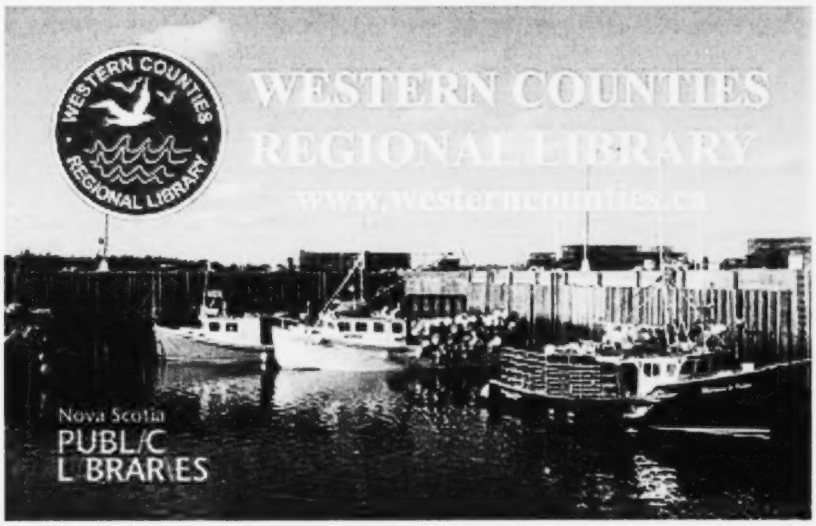
Library Card Month boosts membership

Membership in Western Counties Regional Library stands at its highest level in years after a successful Library Card Month campaign. October's month-long promotion brought in just under 2,500 registrations, including 462 new members. The library renewed 1,978 members, whose cards had expired or were about to expire. At the end of the campaign the library boasted 21,516 members. The success can be attributed to the hard work of the staff and great support from Library Card Month sponsor Transcontinental Media, publishers of the region's English language newspapers. Transcontinental printed and distributed an eight-page tabloid pullout to every household in the region. In addition, library stories were featured as part of four full sponsor pages in its three weekly newspapers. The sponsor also provided prizes, including three six-month subscriptions and use of the Skybox at a Yarmouth Junior A hockey game at the Yarmouth Mariners Centre. The regional campaign was augmented at the branch level with numerous outreach programs in the schools. Nine Read to Me! Jamborees were held across the region. In Yarmouth, staff organized a successful registration drive at the local Wal-Mart store.

Leona Comeau of the Clare branch library shares a story with young readers during a Read to Me! Jamboree program, part of Library Card Month activities.

New Year = New Card

Western Counties Regional Library has seized the opportunity presented by a dwindling supply of its existing library cards to develop a new unique look. Beginning sometime in the new year patrons will begin receiving the new cards, which features a typically south-western Nova Scotia scene, Cape Island boats tied to a wharf. The card is designed to be instantly recognizable and responds to frequently voiced complaints about the existing cards bearing similarities to many other cards. It has the added bonus of coming with a key tag attachment.



The new cards features a typically south-western Nova Scotia scene, Cape Island boats tied to a wharf.

Reading club attracts more boys

The 2006 TD Summer Reading Program (SRP) with its Quest for Heroes theme helped attract more boys to Western Counties Regional Library's summer programming than in the past. In all 642 children signed on and 350 completed the reading requirements of 10 books, with many doing it more than once. In all, participants read 8,990 books during July and August. Invitations were distributed to all schools and some daycare centres. McDonald's Restaurants in Yarmouth and Barrington continue to be major supporters of

the program, donating cash for program development and coupon prizes. Home Hardware stores provided three major gift prizes of a bicycle and helmet. Winners were drawn from among those who completed the reading requirements. In Yarmouth, local businesses donated prizes of toys and candy.

A Young Canada Works grant employee created and delivered a Captain Underpants program to each of the 10 branch libraries. In total, the branches throughout the region offered 48 programs. The average attendance was eight. There was an increase in the number of boys age 6-12 who participated. This is attributed to the appeal of a hero theme.

This year, each branch received a Read-O-Meter (courtesy of McDonald's funds), which meant a child could put a bead in the meter for each book read. Some branches offered a "Guess How Many Books We Read?" contest following the SRP. The average number of books read per participant was 14.

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL OF INFORMATION MANAGEMENT, DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY (SIM)

Dr. Norman Horrocks participates in the Canadian Library Month celebration in Ottawa

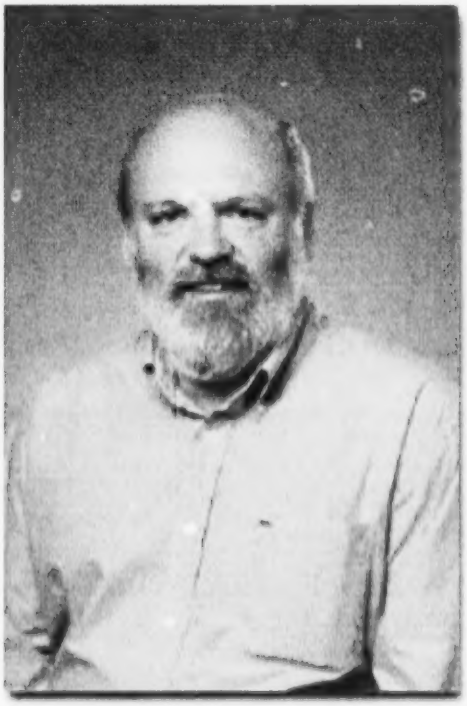
In October, Library and Archives Canada/Bibliothèque et archives Canada celebrated Canadian Library Month with a lecture by Dr. Norman Horrocks, O.C., School of Information Management (SIM) Professor Emeritus and Adjunct Professor, titled "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding." The lecture was followed by a reception hosted by Ottawa-area SIM alumni.

2006 Outstanding Alumnus of the School of Information Management Associated Alumni

Mr. Mark Leggott, University Librarian, University of Prince Edward Island, is this year's recipient of the Outstanding Alumnus Award. On November 23, 2006, Mr. Leggott delivered a public lecture on "The Slow Library Movement" at the Kenneth C. Rowe Management Building. Mr. Leggott presented a new approach to the management and development of library services. The Slow Library movement is modelled on the concepts of the Slow Food movement, with a liberal dash of open source development philosophies. It is not about slowing down: The core concepts are the development of

local staff capacity, encouraging community and the use of open, modular library resources and services.

Prior to his appointment at the University of Prince Edward Island, Mr. Leggott served as University Librarian, Associate Dean of Education (Extended Learning), and Director of the Global Information Commons Centre, at the University of Winnipeg. Mr. Leggott was previously Systems Librarian and Director of the Media Forge at St. Francis Xavier University and Production Manager at Optim Corporation in Ottawa. Mr. Leggott taught in the Computer Science department, St. Francis Xavier University, and the School of Library and Information Studies, Dalhousie University. Mr. Leggott brings a wealth of experience in the development of innovative resources and services and is a frequent lecturer in the Canadian library community. Mr. Leggott has a keen interest in the philosophy of the open source movement, and maintains the blog LoomWare (http://www.loomware.ca).



Mr. Mark Leggott, University Librarian, University of Prince Edward Island, is this year's recipient of the Outstanding Alumnus Award.

Student Travel Awards

The School of Information Management wishes to congratulate four of its students who recently won travel awards. Jennifer Zhao won a $1,000 grant to attend the American Society for Information Science and Technology's (ASIST&T) annual meeting "Information Realities: Shaping the Digital Future for All" held November 5-8, Austin, TX. Competition for ASIS&T's Special Interest Group on Scientific and Technical Information Systems' grant was open to library and information science students with a background in chemistry or chemical engineering. Two students received funding to attend the 2006 Canadian Library Association (CLA) conference held from June 14 -17 in Ottawa. Deborah Hicks received the Alberta Letts Travel Award and classmate Monique Woroniak won the Student-to-CLA award. Mari Beth Slade was awarded the Special Libraries Association (SLA) Business and Finance Division Stipend Award to attend the 2006 SLA conference in Baltimore, Maryland June 11-14, 2006.

NOVA SCOTIA PROVINCIAL LIBRARY NEWS

NS Provincial Library and Strategic Plan

Jennifer Evans, Michael Colborne and Marged Dewar from the NS Provincial Library had the pleasure of touring the province from April to June of this year, conducting public consultations about the future of public libraries. There are nine public library regions in Nova Scotia and consultation sessions took place in each region. Each session was co-hosted by the local public library. The sessions provided a wonderful opportunity for the staff of Provincial Library to hear directly from library users on a variety of interests and concerns about public libraries. Participants were passionate about their local library and the services they accessed. A series of open ended questions were asked in each region and all of the answers as well as the final report about the consultations are available at **www.library.ns.ca**. Provincial Library staff also met with and consulted library boards who provided valuable insights. After the consultations, a new strategic plan was developed for the Provincial Library. Information from the public and library boards informed the strategic plan, available at **www.library.ns.ca**.

Interlibrary Loan Staff Meeting

Research and Planning Librarian Denise Parrott, with Interlibrary Loan Library Assistant Dale MacMillan, hosted staff from the regions on November 24 at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library. The chief topic of discussion was implementation of the Canada Post Electronic Shipping Tool, which all libraries must adopt by January 15, 2007. This tool will track the amount of materials libraries send and receive utilizing the Library Book Rate. Staff from Canada Post fielded questions and indicated strong support for the low rate. Canada Post will support Provincial Library in setting up a province-wide Shipping Tool address book for the regional libraries.

Teleconferences hosted by the Nova Scotia Provincial Library (NSPL)

The Nova Scotia Provincial Library hosted a broadcast of the College of DuPage teleconference "Best New Technologies: Keeping Up with the Storm" on October 27. This was attended by thirty library staff from school, university, government and public libraries as well as students from the Dalhousie University School of Information Management. The teleconference provided very timely information on several new technologies including blogs, social bookmarking, and wikis and looked at why they can be useful for libraries and how they are being used. The program was enriched by several local speakers who provided the participants with examples of how they are using some of these new technologies. Donna Bourne-Tyson, University Librarian, Mount Saint Vincent University and Denyse Rodrigues, Extended Services Librarian at the Mount talked about how the blog on the main page of their Library's web site came about and how it operates. Kelli WooShue, a Reference Services Librarian at Halifax Public Libraries and Newsletter convenor, Nova Scotia Library Association, told the group about how the RSS (Rich Site Summary, RDF Site Summary or Really Simple Syndication) feed on the NSLA web site works.

The Provincial Library will be hosting these upcoming College of DuPage teleconferences during winter/ spring 2007:

Next Gen Librarianship: Where Do We Go from Here? (*Soaring to Excellence 2007 series: Library 2.0 and Beyond*) with Rachel Singer Gordon, Friday, February 9th.

Library Transformation: Making it Happen (*Library Challenges & Opportunities 2007*) with Richard M. Dougherty, of Dougherty and Associates, and a panel of librarians including Leslie Burger, Director of the Princeton Public Library, Princeton, New Jersey, Friday, March 23rd.

The Best from the Web (*Soaring to Excellence 2007 series: Library 2.0 and Beyond*) with Kelly Watson, Adult Services Librarian, Bensenville Community Public Library, Bensenville, Illinois, and a panel of experts on Friday, April 13th.

The Relevance of Libraries in a Digital Age (*Library Challenges & Opportunities 2007*). James G. Neal, Vice President for Information Services and University Librarian at Columbia University will lead a panel discussion on this topic, Friday, May 11th.

More information on these teleconferences can be found at **http://www.dupagepress.com/COD/index.php?id=5** on the College of DuPage web site. To register contact Carol Morris at 424-2477 or by e-mail at **morrisc@gov.ns.ca**.

During the fall the Provincial Library hosted several audio conferences from the Education Institute of The Partnership of provincial and territorial library associations including They Won't Sell Themselves: Marketing Your Electronic Products; Community Development in a Library Context; Conflict Resolution: Yes, It can Be Resolved; Making Reading Programs Fly: 30 Ideas in 60 Minutes; and Survey Says...? These sessions were attended by staff from local university, school, public and government libraries as well as students from the Dalhousie University School of Information Management.. A number of the regional libraries dialed in from their own locations to the sessions on "They Won't Sell Themselves: Marketing Your Electronic Products" and "Conflict Resolution: Yes, It can Be Resolved".

LINKed

The International Year of Planet Earth **http://www.yearofplanetearth.org** was proclaimed for 2008 by the General Assembly of the United Nations. However the Year's activities will actually span the three years 2007-2009. The databases and web sites featured here have information that will assist with the aim of the year which is to demonstrate how the earth sciences can help future generations meet the challenges involved in ensuring a safer and better society.

"*If the Earth could talk. ...: "Si la Terre m'était contée...*" **http://cgq-qgc.ca/tous/terre** provides an introduction to the earth sciences for children. It was produced by the Québec Geoscience Centre, a partnership between the Geological Survey of Canada (GSC-Québec) and the Institut national de la récherche scientifique. *Earth: Our World in Motion* **http://ology.amnh.org/earth/index.html** is another great web site for kids created by the American Museum of Natural History. It explains how the earth is constantly changing and how rocks tell about the changes and history of the earth. A highlight of the site is a journey to the bottom of the ocean floor where children can explore the life forms found there.

Geoscape Canada **http://geoscape.nrcan.gc.ca** is a bilingual site that explains the landscapes, earth and water resources, and natural hazards of Canadian communities. It is provided by the Geological Survey of Canada in collaboration with provincial and municipal agencies and educators. Information for some parts of the country is "in progress".

The *NovaScan* database at **http://www.gov.ns.ca/natr/MEB/pubs/pi_nvscn.htm** contains records of maps and publications produced or collected by the Mineral Resources Branch of the Nova Scotia Dept. of

Natural Resources. Currently it contains over 14,000 records. The *GEOSCAN Database* at **http://ess.nrcan.gc.ca/esic/geoscan_e.php** contains publications of the Geological Survey of Canada and the Canada Centre for Remote Sensing. It has approximately 50,000 records. Some records have links to documents which can be downloaded for free.

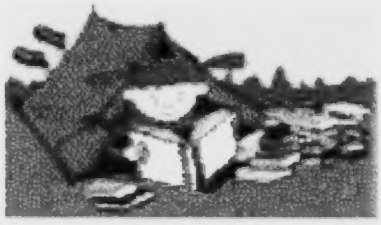
The full text of the *Canadian Minerals Yearbook* can be found at **http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/mms/cmy** on the Natural Resources Canada web site. Starting with 1995 the full text of this publication is available here. Editions of the yearbook prior to 1995 and other publications that provide an historical record of the mining industry in Canada can be viewed at **http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/mms/cmy/info-hist_e.htm**. The same information is available in French by following the French link from the main page.

Digital Library for Earth System Education (DLESE) at **http://www.dlese.org/library** is a database of high quality Internet resources on the earth sciences. There is material for teachers, students at all levels and the general public. Each record in the database has an annotation, is categorized by grade level, resource type and subject, and has a link to the resource web site. *DLESE* is funded by the National Science Foundation (U.S.) and developed by educators, students, and scientists in accordance with collection scope statements, policies and standards for inclusion of resources. You can search the database by entering keywords in the search box and limiting the search by grade level which includes a general public limiter, resource type, collections and standards. Search tips are available at **http://www.dlese.org/resources/search_tips.html**.

Web sites which were featured in previous "Linked" columns are arranged by subject category on the Reference Services page of the Provincial Library web site at **http://www.library.ns.ca/services/reference/index.htm**. If you have any suggestions about future topics for this column please contact Carol Morris at **morrisc@gov.ns.ca**.

PROFESSIONAL COLUMN

Get a jump on planning this summer's reading programs with these two recent additions to the Professional Collection. These items can be borrowed through regular interlibrary loan channels. Please send requests via email to **inshpl@nshpl.library.ns.ca**.



Fiore, Carole D. ***Fiore's summer library reading program handbook.*** New York : Neal- Schuman Publishers, c2005. Call No.: 027 .625 FIO

In this guide to summer reading programs Carole Fiore, who oversees Florida's award-winning summer reading program, shows how to set goals and objectives; establish themes and schedules; coordinate statewide and regional efforts; market and promote events; and evaluate program success. She also provides an A-Z annotated list of thematic programming ideas and a special illustrated section with twenty-five exemplary programs and numerous best practices from libraries across the country. The book is filled with sample forms, checklists, and policies.

Kan, Katharine. ***Sizzling summer reading programs for young adults.*** **2nd ed. Chicago : American Library Association, 2006.** Call No.: 027 .626 KAN

In this updated second edition of her compilation of summer reading programs, Katherine Kan provides details on over fifty summer reading programs that have been successfully used with preteens and teens. There is a wealth of practical information on activities and procedures as well as illustrations of promotional materials, posters, contest materials and reading logs for some of the programs. The book also includes sections on Reading Incentive Programs, Special Programs, Volunteer Opportunities, and Outreach to Special Populations.

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Comments on this issue of The Disseminator should be directed to Jill Webster at **webstegs@gov.ns.ca**

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